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DETACHED ANECDOTES.

ATTACHMENT OF COURTIER.

IN an overturning, which occurred in France after the death of Louis 14th, the marquis de Bois-davis, on being made a prisoner by order of the duke of Orleans, the regent, was asked, when and how he had formed so close a connection with the duke du Maine: "I never so much as saw him, nor yet the regent." "How then," replied the minister, "come you to have devoted yourself so zealously to the interest of that prince, preferably to the regent?" "Just," returned Bois-davis, "as one takes a fancy without knowing why, or wherefore; to one gamester, sooner than to another."

FIREARMS.

In the history of the state of the sciences in Prussia, and of the manners of its inhabitants under the dominion of the Teutonic order, by professor Lewis von Baczko, it is said, that Gedomin, a Lithuanian prince, was killed by a firearm, at the siege of the castle of Bayern, in new east Prussia, in the year 1328. This is the earliest mention of firearms in history, and precedes by two years the time at which Schwartz is commonly said to have invented gunpowder. The authority quoted for it is Koralowiec's *Historia Lithuaniae*, P. I. p. 279, 280 *

* In 1339. the Teutonic knights had three

BOMBS.

At the siege of Heilsberg, in 1520, the markgraf Albert used hollow balls of iron, filled with powder which burst, when they fell on the ground. These were certainly furnished with a fusee, or match of some sort, for they might be prevented from exploding by the application of wet hides.

VAN DER SPIEGEL.

It is the common practice of European courts, on the signing of a treaty, to make presents to those concerned in the negociation. When the treaty of subsidy, between Great Britain, Prussia, and Holland, was concluded on the 19th of April, 1794, presents of considerable magnitude, particularly from the British court, were offered to the grand pensioner, van der Spiegel, and Mr. secretary Fagel. These they politely declined, agreeably to a resolution they had previously taken: "both," says the grand pensioner, "because it would have laid our government under the necessity of making a similar return to the British and Prussian ministers; and because we were ashamed to derive any emolument to ourselves from a treaty, which was in no respect advantageous to our country."

carbines, by means of which "they carried fire with a loud noise into the enemies' lines."